

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS

NEBRASKA
CROP & LIVESTOCK
REPORTING
SERVICE

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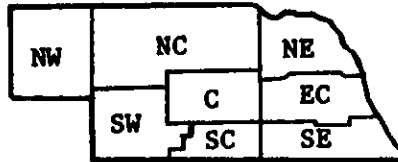
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WEATHER

Two major storms hit Nebraska this week--one during midweek and another at the end of the week. Both produced heavy rain and snowfall. Precipitation amounts ranged from one inch in the Panhandle to three inches in the southeast. The week was cool with average temperatures ranging from one degree below normal in the east to nine degrees below normal in the west.

GENERAL

Frustrated Nebraska farmers were faced with another week of little or no field work progress. Precipitation arrived in all forms last week as rain, snow and gusty winds moved across the State. Field work was scattered with some field preparation, fertilizing and planting of small grains being accomplished on higher ground. Sugar beet planting progressed and was drawing to a close with a few producers still needing drier conditions to finish. Statewide, field work is about ten days to two weeks behind normal. The cool, wet conditions continued to pose problems for livestock producers with wet lots and slow pasture growth. The number of days suitable for field work was 3.

Topsoil moisture rated 34% adequate and 66% surplus. Subsoil moisture rated 45% adequate and 55% surplus. A year ago, topsoil moisture was 77% adequate and 23% surplus. Subsoil moisture was 59% adequate and 41% surplus.

CROPS

Winter wheat condition declined for the second week in a row and rated 34% poor, 60% fair and 6% good. Jointing had occurred on 4% of the acreage compared to 6% a year ago and 10% average. Winter kill varied from very minimal to whole fields destroyed. Crown and root rot continued to be a concern.

Less than 1% of the corn acreage was planted compared to 2% last year and 6% average.

Oat seeding progressed to 50% complete compared to 60% last year and a 5-year average of 85%. The planting season for oats was quickly drawing to a close and many farmers were considering alternative crops. Late planted oats could be cut for hay or silage.

LIVESTOCK

Pasture and range feed was rated short in about one-third of the State and adequate in two-thirds. Reduction of hay and forage supplies, due to the extended winter conditions, forced livestock producers to move more cattle into pastures even though spring growth was slow. Lots remained muddy and young calves continued to battle scours and pneumonia.

Precipitation, April 1 - April 27, 1984

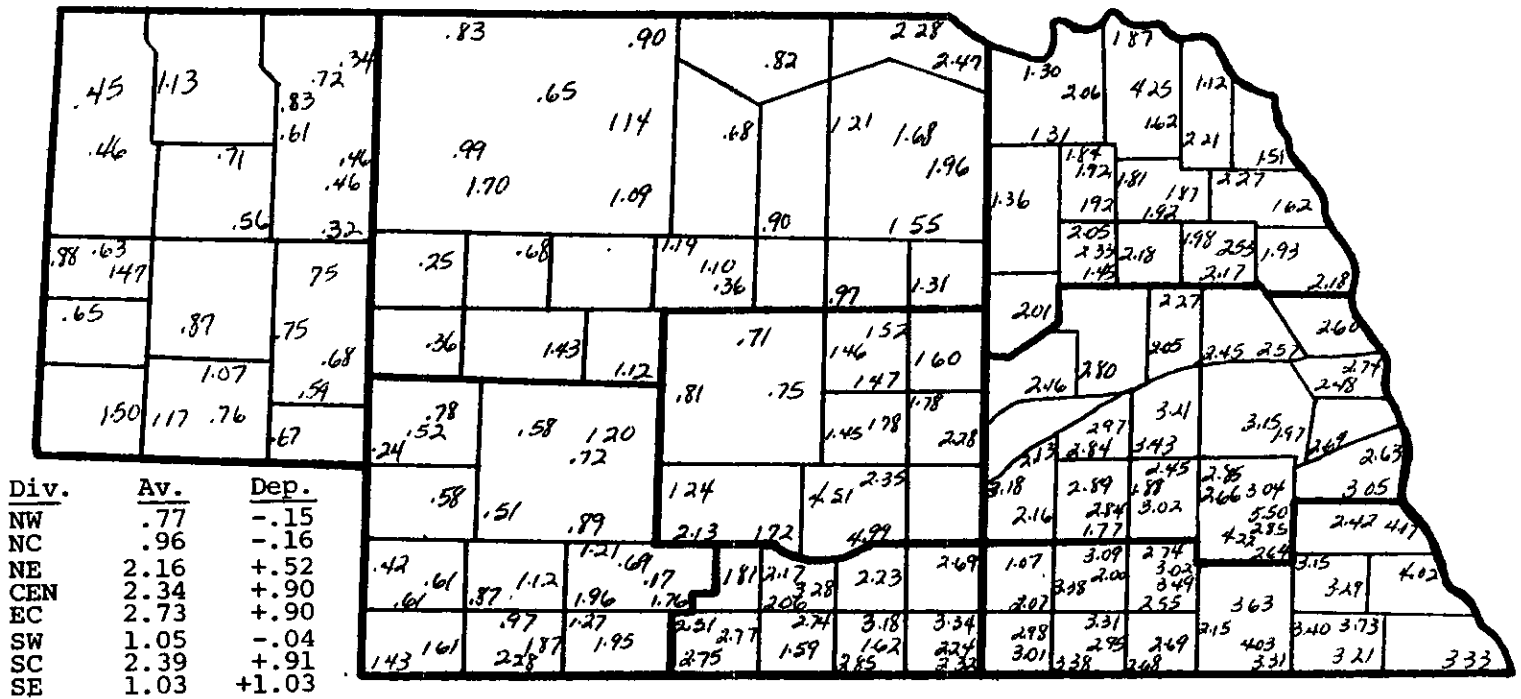
	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week.....	1.07	1.21	1.97	1.38	2.49	1.92	2.64	2.15
Total since April 1.....	3.13	3.49	6.74	3.51	6.38	4.90	4.83	6.03
Normal since April 1.....	1.47	1.77	2.11	1.91	2.33	1.55	1.89	2.35

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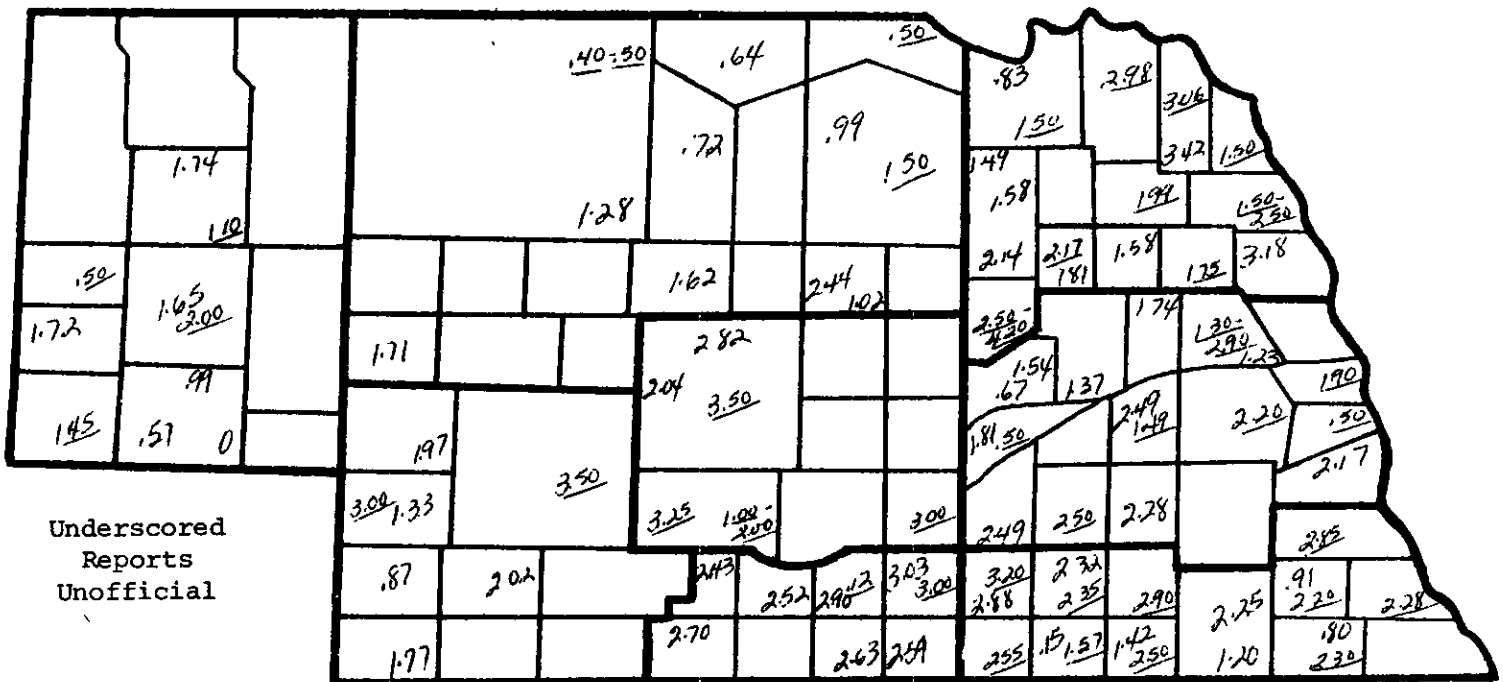
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PRECIPITATION MAP FOR MONTH OF MARCH 1984 1/



1/ Courtesy of the Center for Agricultural Meteorology and Climatology, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, The University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, APRIL 27, 1984



TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 29, 1984

Station		Temperature				Precipitation
		Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches 1/
		Max	Min			
NW	Chadron	72	20	38	0	1.12
	Scottsbluff	69	20	41	-9	1.60
	Sidney	65	17	39	0	0
NC	Ord	--	--	--	--	--
	Valentine	71	26	44	-6	.77
NE	Norfolk	83	33	51	-3	1.56
	Sioux City	80	36	53	-2	1.08
CEN	Grand Island	82	33	53	-2	1.38
EC	Lincoln	82	34	54	-3	1.60
	Omaha	80	32	53	-1	1.68
SW	Imperial	71	25	43	--	.34
	North Platte	71	26	45	-7	.84

1/ Precipitation totals not included in map above.